

From: Scott Menor
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/8/01 3:57am
Subject: Re: U.S. v. Microsoft: Settlement Information

To Renata B. Hesse (or whom it may concern):

I strongly agree with Steve Jobs' statements against the earlier proposed Microsoft settlement. In particular, requiring Microsoft to donate their products to schools isn't punitive as the cost to Microsoft would be negligible. Worse, such a donation would increase the prevalence of Microsoft products in schools and so make it more likely that exposed students would continue using Microsoft products at home and later, so strengthening Microsoft's monopoly.

Unfortunately, the revised settlement isn't a significant improvement.

While it is true that I have not had a chance to thoroughly examine the newly proposed settlement, on first reading, it seems to lack any significant fines or penalties (particularly when considering the economic size of Microsoft but even for a much smaller corporation).

Minimally, I think the settlement should include a substantial fine (on the order of several billion dollars per year) over the course of 5 years (or longer).

Further, significant safeguards should be implemented to prevent Microsoft from using their OS monopoly power to take over other markets and force competitors' products off of the market. In particular, care should be taken toward .Net and Passport.

Sincerely,
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